



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE:

APPLICATION OF : GEORGE CLARK, PAUL MORRISON AND  
PEDRO VELIS

TITLE : AMINE-FREE EMULSIFICATION OF  
ALKALINE EARTH METAL SULFONATES

SERIAL NO. : 09/621,857

FILING DATE : July 24, 2000

EXAMINER : REDDICK, M.

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TO: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, DC 20231

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**APPLICANT'S RESPONSE TO THE EXAMINER'S OFFICE ACTION**  
**MAILED SEPTEMBER 20, 2001**

This paper is respectfully submitted in response to the Examiner's first substantive Office Action mailed on September 20, 2001.

**AMENDMENT**

**In the Claims:**

**Kindly amend Claim 1 as follows:**

1. (Amended) A method of forming an amine-free emulsion of an alkaline earth metal sulfonate compound, said method comprising the steps of:
  - a) adding a urethane-based thickener compound to water;
  - b) dispersing said thickener compound in said water by mixing until a uniform [water/thickener] solution of said water and said thickener is formed;
  - c) adding an alkaline earth metal sulfonate or sulfonate-containing mixture to